TALES. By FRANK R. STOCKTON. 12mo, pp. 193. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The stories which have been gatherd under the general title of fanciful tales in Mr. Stockton's test volume seem to indicate a straining of the peculiar humor which characterizes the author's earlier work. There remains in most of them enough of the familiar oddity to distinguish them from all contemporary work, but the machinery seems to creak and here and there one gets a glimpse of its working, which is apt to have a disillusionizing effect. A few of the stories have an apparent purpose; that is to say, they suggest some trite moral. Most of them, however, are made to depend almost entirely upon incongruities and unexpected fantasies, and as the narrative is generally both slight and meaning-I ss the impression conveyed is that of rather forced efforts at funniness. The extreme simllicity and sobriety with which Mr. Stockton tells the most fantastical, grotesque and ridiculous stories are no doubt accountable for much of the fascination which his manner exercises. That peculiarity is no less marked in the new volume than in its predecessors, but it is not so effective, because it is not reinforced by humor in the conception. Take for example the story of "The Griffin and the Minor Canon." The title is considerally droller than the tale itself. utterly incongruous juxtaposition tickles the fancy as did Lewis Carroll's similar bracketing of The Walrus and the Carpenter." But when the story is read there is little humor in it. A griffin hears that a sculpter has adorned a church with a piece of statuary representing him, the griffin. He makes a journey to see it, frightens all the townsfolk, meets the Minor Canon, becomes attached to him, and after some not very interesting incidents carries away his stone likeness, sets it up over his cave and dies, previously beiriending the Minor Canon. Now this is not funny at all. It is indeed hardly coherent enough to show a reason for existence. The humor of it is diluted to what homeopathists weull denominate the thousandth potency. The griffin is not at all amusing, neither is the Minor Canon, nor their relations, nor what comes of their relations. We should suppose that it Mr. Stockton ever toll such a story to a group of children as a fairy tale they would be very apt to vote it stupid. 'The Bee Man of Orn" is perhaps a little

more interesting because it contains queerer whimsies and absurdities. But the central idea here also is so attenuated as to be all but imperceptible. In "Old Pipes and the Dryad" the author's fancy seems to have played more freely, and the conception is not without grace and pleasantness, while the absence of bizarre and grotesque figures is more than compensated by the introduction of as near an approach to the poetical as Mr. Stockton ever permits himself. That he might go so much further in this direction without doing worse is shown plainly enough by his present essay. "Christmas Before Last, or the Island of the Fragile Palm." is, we think, the best of the stories. It has more unstrained humor prout it, and is marked by one of the author's pleasantest characteristics-the habit of describing the most widely impossible things and doings with an effectation of scientific exactness and scrupulous simplicity of diction. Nothing in his work is so ca; tivating as this, and there are few better examples of it than the plan of the boy who had studied mechanics for getting at the fruit of the Fragile Palm. There is a great deal of fun. too, in the conception of Captain Covejos, the old merchant skipper whose stanch ship, the "Horn o' Flonty," goes better stern first than bow first; who thinks nothing of interrupting a voyage to spend several months cruising for an unknown island that he may return to their homes a boatful of truant schoolboys; and who was so fond of comfort that he had his poop carpeted at sea. The encounter with the pirates and the escape of the Horn o' Plenty's company from these marauders are also very neatly done and in Mr. Stockton's best manner. "Prince Hassek's March" has some elements of drollery in it, but its oddities are hardly genuine and do not seem to have been arrived at spontaneously. On the whole the volume is somewhat disa pointing and indicates the tendency to exhaustion which experiment in a new and not congenial field is sure to accentuate. In the line which he his own there is, however, no reason why Mr. Stockton should not score many more

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For catalogues apply to the Librarian of Stevens Institute ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL. Manhus, N. Y., reopens Sept. 14. The Rev. Wm. J. Wilkie, repre-senting the school, may be seen at the Hotel Brunswick in this city on Yuesday, Sept. 6, from 10 to 11:30 a. m. THE CEDARS, HAVERSTRAW, N. Y;

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Harlem Branch, 129th-st, 4th-ave, opening Friday, September 23. Afternoon and evening. See circulars. MR. TRENOR'S ACADEMY OF DANCING, BROADWAY AND 32D ST. 38TH YEAR NOW OPEN. Call or send for circular. Bankers and Brokers.

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COUNTY, ARIZONA.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter Two, of Title
Thirty-one of the Revisel Statutes of Arizona, passed by the
Fourteenth Lexislative Assembly of the Territory of Arizona,
and approved March 2, 1887, and in pursuance of an order
made by the Board of Supervisors August 23, 1887; if will
recoive scaled proposals at my efficien Prescott Yavapai
County, Arizona, until 4 p. m.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TR, 1887.
For the purchase of the above boals.
Sail bonds bear seven per cent interest. Interest payable
on the 15th day of January in each year. Ten sec cent of
salt bonds to be paid in ten years, and ten per cent annually
thereafter until all of said bonds are paid. Principal and
interest payable in gold coin or its equivalent in lawful money
of the United States, at the office of the County Treasurer of
Yavapai County, in the Territory of Arizona, or at such back
in the city of Sas Francisco or New-York as the purchasse
may elect, the place of payment to be mentioned in said
bond.

bond.
Said bonds are in denomination of One Thousand (\$1,000)
Dollars each, and are numbered consecutively.
No bid will be entertained for less than the face value of
said bond. Right is respectively reserved to reject any and
all bids.

Present Arizona August 26, 1897.

Prescott, Arizona, August 26, 1887. W. C. BASH FORD, County Treasurer Yavapai County, A. T. NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Metropolitan Telephone and Telegraph Commany to provide for an increase of its capital stock, such increase to be made from time to time as may be determined by vote of the Board of Directors or a majority of them, with the written consents of three-fourths in interest of the stockh iders, provided, however that the entire amount of the capital stock shall not exceed rive million dollars; and also to provide for an increase of the number of shares into which the capital stock shall not exceed rivinded.

New York, September 9, 1887.

THE METROPOLITAN TELEPHONE AND TELE-GRAPH CO.

By
THEODORE N. VAIL, President, JOHN H. CAHILL, Secretary.

THE LAKE ERIC AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the stockLoiders of the Lake Eric and Western Railroad Company for the election of three directors to serve for three
years and the transaction of other proper business will be
held at the office of the company at Shomington, Ill., on
Wednesday, the 5th day of October, 1887.

The transfer books will be closed at 3 o'clock p. m. on Saturlay, September 10, and reopened at 10 o'clock a. m. on
Thursday, October 6, 1887.

L. M. SCHWAN.

Secretary and Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE CENTEAL RAILEDAD COMPANY OF

NEW JERSEY.

119 LIDERTY-ST.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17, 1887.

TO THE HOLDERS OF GENERAL MORT.

CENTRAL RAILEDAD COMPANY OF NEW JERS EY.

The mortgage to the Central Trust Company of New York securing the General Mortgage 100 year 5 per cent Gold Fonds of THE CENTRAL RAILEDAD C M PANY OF New JERS EY.

The mortgage to the Central Trust Company of New York securing the General Mortgage 100 year 5 per cent Gold Fonds of THE CENTRAL RAILEDAD C M PANY OF New JERSEY, covering the railroad property, equimment and franchises of the Company, uncluding all the securities representing the courted of the necessary constituent Companies, has been prepared in pursuance of the plan of Reorganization of June 3, 1887, by 400. B. Williamson (out-Chamceilor) and Robert W de Forest, Eso, Compset for the Receivers and the Company, and Samicie Duckson, Esq., representing the Trustees of the Consolidated, Convertible, and A justiment Bondholters. This Mortgage has also been examined and approved by Measrs, Butler, Stillman & Hubbart, Counset of the Central Trust Company, and by John C, Buillitt, Esq., of Philadelphia, nominated by Measrs, Brown, Shipley & Co., of London, as their special counsel for this pur-

It is expected that both Registers hand London Stock Exchanges.

J. HOGERS MAXWELL, President J. HOGERS MAXWELL, President J. HOGERS MAXWELL, President STOCKHOLDERS' MARTING.

THE STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

THE stockholders in the Burlington and Lamoille Railroad Company are hereby notified to meet at the Van Neas House, in Burlington, Vt., on Saturday, October 1, 1887, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of determining whether they will authorize the issue by said commining whether they will authorize the issue by said commining of preferred stock to an amount not exceeding \$500,000, to be used in the payment, disch.irg, retirement or excharge of the outstanding claims, liens, mortgages and incombrances existing against said company or against its property; and any other business that may come before the meeting.

E. W. PECK, Clerk.

Dividend Notices.

MANHATTAN RAH.WAY COMPANY, NO. 71 BROADWAY, NO. 71 BROADWAY, NO. 71 BROADWAY, A DIVIDEND OF ONE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT on the consolidated capital stock of this company has been declared, parable at the office of the company, No. 71 Broadway, on and after October 1, 1897. The transfer books with pelclosed at 3 o'clock p. m. on Monday, September 19, and reopened on Monday, October 3, at 10 o'clock a. m.

D. W. MCWILLIAMS, Treasurer. Cclock a. m.

OHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND ST. PAUL
RAILWAY COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that dividends have been
declared out of the net evarings for the year 1857 of THIKEB
DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS per Share on the Preferred Stock and of TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS
per thare on the Common Stock of this Company, parable on
the 14th day of October next, at the Office of the Company, 43
Wall at., New-York.

The Transfer Books will be closed on the 26th day of September and responed on the 17th day of October.

15th Sept. 1887. FRANK S. BOND, Vice-President.

DIVIDEND NO. 29.

OFFICE OF THE MISSOUR! PACIFIC BAILWAY CO.,
195 BROADWAT.

A quarterly dividend of O × E AND THERE-QUABTERS
(134) PER CENT on the capital stock of this company has
this day been declared, payable on October 1 next.
The transfer books will be closed on Friday, September 16.
at 3 o'clock p. m., and reopened on Monday, October 3, at 10
o'clock a. m.

A. H. CALEF, Treasurer.

A. H. CALEF, Treasurer.

WESTERN UNION TRIEGRAPH COMPANY.

NRWYORK, Sept. 14, 1887.

DIVIDEND NO. 76.—The Board of Directors upon the capital stock of this company from the net carriags of the three menths ending September 39, materia, able as the office of the Treasurer on and after the 18th day of Octaper aext to shareholders of record on the 20th of September instant. Instant.

The transfer books will be closed at 3 o'clock on the sites, noon of September 20 instant, and reonened on the mering of October 15 next.

R. H. ROCHESTER, Transmir, and the Transmir books close on the 20th inst.

LOUNSBERY & CO., Transfer Agents.